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Figure-Four

No. 1 June 12, 1995

Great American Bash Preview and Analysis; Solie Quits WCW

World Championship Wrestling presents it's next supercard, the Great American Bash one week before the June 24th WWF King of the Ring Tournament. The editors of Figure Four have analyzed each of the matches on this upcoming card and here are our selections:

"Flyin'" Bryan Pillman vs. Alex Wright. Both men are excellent aerial wrestler's, however Wright has been getting the bigger push as of late. Unfortunately, Pillman was arrested recently and given a DWI, so it is questionable whether this match will take place at all. If it does, look for Wright to most likely pull off the win. Prediction: *Wright.*

Craig Pittman vs. Marcus Alexander Bagwell. No match of the year candidate here, look for this match to be mainly time filler. Prediction: *Pittman.*

Arn Anderson vs. Renegade (for TV Title). The Ultimate Renegade has been getting a huge push lately and it is rumored that he won't be defeated for quite some time. Look for Anderson to do the job. Prediction: *Renegade.*

Jim Duggan vs. Kamala. Expect a high-flying, aerial battle here. Right. Prediction: *Duggan.*

Diamond Dallas Page vs. Dave Sullivan. More filler. Prediction: *Page.*

Sting vs. Meng. Meng has been wrestling extremely well, and has gotten a major push as of late. However, we can't see Sting jobbing again to a less qualified wrestler. Prediction: *Sting.*

Bluebloods vs. Nasty Boys. If the Nasty boys can avoid being assaulted by cotton candy as they were in Uncensored, they should be able to pull off this one. Prediction: *Nasty's.*

Ric Flair (with Vader) vs. Randy Savage (with Hogan). Billed as a grudge match due to Flair's Slamboree attack on **Angelo Poffo**. Expect Flair to job yet again. Plus, with the way WCW has been booking lately, we could see Flair somehow losing to *Hogan* (remember the infamous strap match?) Prediction: *Savage.*

* * *

Legendary announcer Gordon Solie has apparently quit WCW, just weeks after his induction into their Hall of Fame.

Solie had been angry as of late concerning the handling of the Hall of Fame, specifically the fact that **John Studd** and Angelo Poffo, whom he felt had no history with the promotion, were inducted. He was also reportedly angered with the state of WCW currently, and didn't want to lend himself to such a product.

WRESTLER OF THE WEEK

Just a few short months ago, **Bam Bam Bigelow** was a mid card wrestler with **Ted DiBiase's** million dollar corporation. Now, he's declared himself a fan favorite, and is waging war on the Corporation.

Quite successfully, we must add. After Diesel underwent surgery for his injured elbow, he was granted replacements for his matches against **Sid Vicious**, in the form of Shawn Michaels, Bret Hart, and Bigelow. Michaels and Hart are both considered two of the best workers in the world, however Bigelow showed he has some great skill by *pinning* Psycho Sid on June 2nd in Milwaukee.

MATCH OF THE WEEK

Although it was about the least scientific match in the history of wrestling, Bull Pain and War Machine faced the team of Ian and Axl Rotten, "Bad Breed" in a Thumbtack Death Match on a recent ECW card. Before the match, thumbtacks were scattered around the ringside area, and fans were invited to distribute their own as well. The floor ended up being covered with tacks as the match began.

Of course, the match itself was a sickening melee, with all four men being bloodied at some point. One ringside fan lost his lunch twice due to the sickening display of plasma.

In the end, Ian was the victim of a vicious backdrop to the tack covered arena floor, costing his team the victory.

Wrestling News From Around the World

Here we go with the wrestling news for the week of June 12, 1995. Remember, everything contained herein must be considered rumor and hearsay until proved otherwise. The Figure Four presents this news at face value.

WWF News: Shane Douglas was present at the June 5 edition of Monday Night Raw. Unfortunately he was just there as a traveling companion for **Chris Benoit,** who wrestled in a dark match.

That same edition of RAW was apparently rated #1 in basic cable programs by the Neilson service, blasting into 2.55 million homes.

Also on RAW: **Owen Hart** and **Davey Boy Smith** wrestled to a draw in a King of the Ring qualifying match, and as a result, **Yokozuna** was scheduled to face **Lex Luger** the following week in another qualifying match. WWF aired a short video which actually showed Yokozuna squashing *Hulk Hogan.*

The match took place on the card after the live show, and Yokozuna won by countout, securing him a place in KOTR.

Chris Benoit has wrestled several times, however he has jobbed to both **Adam Bomb** (!) and Owen Hart. Ironically, **Stu Hart**, Owen's father, originally trained Benoit.

WWF has announced it's Hall of Fame inductees for a ceremony taking place the night before KOTR. They are: **Fabulous Moolah, Antonio Rocca, George Steele, Ernie Ladd, Ivan Putski, Pedro Morales,** and **Grand Wizard.**

Look for **Razor Ramon** to possibly turn heel in the upcoming weeks.

Dan Spivey has debuted as **Waylan Mercy** on a recent Superstars taping. His persona, modeled after Robert Deniro's Cape Fear character, is getting an early push, pinning Bob Holly with a Brain Buster.

Look for **Unibomb**, **Spellbinder** and a heel **Dustin Rhodes** to be coming to WWF soon.

WCW News: Apparently, beginning August 7, WCW will begin airing a 2 hour Monday night wrestling show from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., much like WWF's old Prime Time Wrestling. This show will air on Turner's TNT Superstation.

Gordon Solie has quit WCW (see cover story).

Bobby Heenan will most likely be inducted into the WCW Hall of Fame next year.

William "Refrigerator" Perry has enrolled in the WCW training school. Trainer **Terry Taylor** has stated the Perry will receive no preferential treatment.

Also enrolled: Meng's nephew, a huge individual (6'3", 260 pounds) who has formerly played pro-football.

WCW has announced an August 8 Pay-Per-View featuring the matches from North Korea, attended by 150,000 fans. That card will run as follows: **Antonio Inoki** vs. Ric Flair, **The Steiners** vs. **Hiro Hase and Kensuke Sasaki**, **Hawk** vs. **Tadao**, **Bull Nakano** vs. **Akira Hokuto, Scott Norton and Maso Chano** vs. **Akira Nogami and Takayuki Iizuka, Wild Pegasus** vs. **2 Cold Scorpio**, **Black Cat** vs. **El Samara,** and **Hiro Saito** vs. **Yuji Nagato.**

Van Hammer's family's adult video and book store was recently raided by authorities.

Around the World: Ian Rotten is apparently OK after what was thought to be a bad knee injury last week. He apparently came off the top rope to the outside of the ring and landed wrong on the cement.

ECW will present a house show on June 17 which will feature **Sandman** facing **Cactus Jack** for the ECW Heavyweight Title in a barbed wire match-up.

The next Ultimate Fighting Championship will air on July 14, 1995. Check your pay-per-view listings.

Bull Pain and **War Machine** beat **Bad Breed** in a "thumbtack death match". The ring area was surrounded by legit thumbtacks scattered by wrestlers and fans. One fan threw up due to seeing all the gore. The match ended when Ian was backdropped onto the thumbtacks.

The "To the Extreme" wrestling convention will come to you the weekend of June 30th to July 1st.

Figure-Four Trivia Quiz

Ric Flair calls himself and 11-time World Champion. Various wrestling magazines include his final NWA title reign and count 12. In actuality, Flair has held the title several more times, however they were short stints that were not reported by either the promotion he was wrestling in at the time or the news services available.

This weeks trivia question: How many times has Flair been considered "World's Champion", both recorded and unrecorded.

Check out next weeks issue for the surprising answer.

United States Wrestling Hotlines

Axl Rotten's Hotline: (410) 234-9762 Free.
Chad Austin's Hotline: (410) 385-9530 Free.
CityLine WWF Info: (415) 512-5100 extension 6205. Free.
Coach Kurt's Hotline: Chicago (312)/(708) 976-6363
New York: (any AC) 976-6363
ECW Hotline: (900) 884-4ECW 1.49/0.99
M.L. Curley's Hotline: (313) 252-2200 extension 0928. Free
Real Wrestling Hotline: (900) 903-9030 0.99/0.99
Roanoke VA Times Hotline: (703) 382-0200 extension 3028. Free
Seattle WA Times Hotline: (206) 464-2000 extension 9616. Free.
Southwestern Bell: (512) 416-5700 extension 6774. Free.
WCW Hotline: (900) 909-9900 1.49/0.99
World TV Wrestling Hotline: (612) 362-3608. Free.
Wrestling Wrap
Albany/Troy, NY (518) 446-4000 extension 2024. Free.
Halifax, N.S., Canada (902) 425-2255 extension 3032
Modesto CA (209) 575-7500 extension 2024. Free.
Ottawa, Ont., Canada (613) 721-1990 extension 2773. Free.
Northwest Pro Wrestling Hotline: (206) 672-6887. Free.
YWF Wrestling Connection: (206) 485-0384. Free.

To add numbers to the Hotline list, simply leave the name, number (with area code) and cost on the YWF Wrestling Connection. All new entries will be checked before publication.

News continued...

Brian Christopher beat **Doug Gilbert** for the USWA Heavyweight Title.

Mistuhara Misawa defeated **Stan Hansen** for the All Japan Triple Crown Title.

Sabu's uncle, the 70+ year old **Sheik** is back in Michigan recuperating from a heart attack he suffered recently. He is prepared to wrestle at least one more match.

The January Tokyo Dome show will most likely feature any fan's dream match... Sabu vs. **Jushin Liger**.

Don Ross, known to the wrestling world as "Ripper Savage, the Bronx Barbarian", died this week at the age of 48.

If you have any latebreaking news tips, you can leave them on the YWF Wrestling Connection at (206) 485-0384.

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